

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
National Foreign Assessment Center
Office of Imagery Analysis

TCS-12982/78
21 December 1978
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Strategic Research

SUBJECT : OIA's Response to OSR's Request for Consideration of
a Cooperative Research Effort on Soviet Civil Defense
Capabilities (U)

1. Your request cited above asks for answers to two questions:
(a) What would it cost to provide existing data from our files for the
planned contracted research effort? and (b) Do we think the analysis
could be handled more effectively in-house and, if so, what additional
commitment would we expect and be willing to make? (U)

2. We believe that regardless of who performs this research
effort, the accuracy of data in existing files should be checked before
it is used. We know from our own experience that information contained
in the Target Data Inventory pertaining to industrial facilities, and in
some cases military facilities, is not always complete or correct. This
may also be true for other files. If the decision is made to validate
the raw data for this study, it would have to be done within NFAC where
other information and sources could be brought to bear. OIA is willing
to perform the validation for industrial and military facilities re-
gardless of who is charged with the overall research effort. We believe
this could be accomplished concurrent with the other aspects of our
civil defense work. We estimate that the validation would cost us about
one-half of a manyear for the 57 cities. If the decision is to use
unvalidated, raw data we could provide the small amount of data that is
unique to our files at almost no cost. (S)

3. In our opinion, a multidisciplinary CIA team, composed of
political, geographic, economic, military and imagery analysts would be
more likely to do a quality, authoritative job. If the research effort
were to stay within NFAC, OIA would perform the validation of raw data,
and would be willing to assist in other appropriate ways. (C)

4. Finally, you should be aware that June 1979 is too early for
completion of a study of the 57 cities comprising the stratified random
sample. Because of long shadows and snow cover, imagery collection
against the cities north of 50 degrees has been deactivated until

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1 April. This was done in coordination with OSR and the participating PI organizations. We are presently concentrating on cities south of 50 degrees. We do not expect analysis of all 57 cities to be completed before the end of August. (TSR)



Noel E. Firth
Director
Imagery Analysis

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